

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A system for dialing a telephone number, comprising:
 - a computer system;
 - a display device coupled to said computer system, wherein said computer system includes an input device that enables a user to select a sequence of numbers displayed on the display device;
 - an audio speaker, included in said computer system, said audio speaker generating Dual Tone Multi-Frequency ("DTMF") audio tones;
 - a telephone device that includes an audio receiver that is capable of receiving said DTMF audio tones; and
 - wherein said computer user places the audio receiver in close proximity to the audio speaker and activates a dialing function to generate DTMF tones for the selected sequence of numbers.
2. The system of claim 1 wherein said computer user, upon completion of DTMF tone generation, conducts a telephone conversation using the audio receiver.
3. The system of claim 1 wherein said computer system chassis further comprises hardware to generate DTMF tones, said hardware including a sound board.
4. The system of claim 3 wherein said sound board couples to the audio speaker and includes an encoder/decoder and amplifier.

1 5. The system of claim 1 wherein said input device comprises a mouse pointing device.

1 6. The system of claim 1 wherein said input device comprises selection keys on a computer
2 keyboard.

1 7. The system of claim 1 wherein said user selected sequence of numbers is a telephone
2 number.

1 8. The system of claim 7 wherein the dialing function to generate DTMF tones can recognize
2 the selected telephone number as having an area code requiring long distance dialing and
3 automatically insert the additional tones and pauses for dialing the long distance telephone number.

1 9. A method of dialing a telephone number, comprising:
2 selecting, using an input device, a sequence of numbers displayed on a display device;
3 placing an audio receiver coupled to a telephone device in close proximity to an audio
4 speaker coupled to the computer system;
5 activating a dialing function;
6 generating electronic signals for the sequence of numbers selected;
7 transmitting electronic signals to an audio speaker to produce Dual Tone Multi-Frequency
8 ("DTMF") audio tones; and
9 conducting a telephone conversation using the audio receiver after production of DTMF
10 audio tones.

1 10. A method as in claim 9 wherein said computer system contains a sound board that
2 generates the electronic signals, said electronic signals conforming to a DTMF format.

1 11. A method as in claim 10 wherein said sound board couples to the audio speaker and
2 includes an encoder/decoder and amplifier.

1 12. A method as in claim 9 wherein said input device comprises a mouse pointing device.

1 13. A method as in claim 9 wherein said input device comprises selection keys on a computer
2 keyboard.

1 14. A method as in claim 9 wherein the sequence of numbers selected is a telephone number.

1 15. A method as in claim 14 wherein the dialing function can recognize the selected telephone
2 number as having an area code requiring long distance dialing and automatically insert the
3 additional tones and pauses for dialing the long distance telephone number.

1 16. A method of dialing a telephone number, comprising:
2 selecting a sequence of numbers displayed in a software application executing on a
3 computer system;
4 placing an audio receiver coupled to a telephone device in close proximity to an audio
5 speaker coupled to the computer system;
6 activating a dialing function with the sequence of numbers selected;

7 generating Dual Tone Multi-Frequency ("DTMF") signals for the sequence of numbers
8 selected;
9 transmitting DTMF signals to an audio speaker to produce DTMF audio tones; and
10 communicating with a remote object over a telephone line using the audio receiver after
11 production of DTMF audio tones.

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